THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) electrification of un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households only would be financed with 100% capital subsidy as per norms of Kutir Jyoti norm in all rural habitations. Households above poverty line would be paying for their connections at prescribed connection charges and no subsidy would be available for this purpose.

(c) Outlay of Rs. 3510 crore has been estimated for giving connections to 2.34 crore BPL families @ Rs. 1500 per BPL household.

Rural electrification

†3114. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the year 2005-06, it was targeted to electrify 10,846 villages and provided electricity to 60 lakh rural families;

(b) if not, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the above said target is likely to be achieved and if so, the details thereof and the number of villages and families that have been provided with electricity between April, 2005 to December, 2005?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) A target to electrify 10,000 villages under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana was kept during 2005-06

(c) During the year 2005-06, village Electricity Infrastructure has been created for 9819 villages till 31.03.2006 and 34003 households have availed of electricity connections during 2005-06 according to report received from Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd.

With regard to progress between April, 2005 to December, 2005, REC has reported that Village Electricity Infrastructure was created in 1760 villages and 5446 rural families availed of connections during that period.

Proper utilization of Power

†3115. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA :
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether 23,000 MW power can be saved in the country by way of proper utilization of power;

(b) if not, the facts thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that with above steps present shortage of power in the country can be removed; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The technical potential for electricity saving of about 23000 MW is achievable. Under Energy Conservation Act, 2001, Bureau of Energy Efficiency has been set up to promote energy efficiency and conservation. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency has taken a number of initiatives to promote energy efficiency and conservation for achieving energy and electricity saving in the identified thrust areas.

Generation of Power in Ratnagiri Gas and Power Corporation Ltd.

†3116. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that generation of power would commence in Ratnagiri Gas and Power Corporation Ltd. with effect from 1st May, 2006;

(b) if so, the percentage of total installed capacity that would be generated now;

(c) whether it is also a fact that instead of Gas, Naphtha would be used as fuel in this project;

(d) if so, the estimated cost of power generation; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the cost of generation of power in this project is more than the average cost of generation and if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Power generation from Ratnagiri Power Project of M/s Ratnagiri Gas and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.